



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540,878	06/27/2005	Takayuki Kawaguchi	0020-5388PUS1	1801
2292	7590	06/06/2008	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				ANDERSON, REBECCA L
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1626				
NOTIFICATION DATE			DELIVERY MODE	
06/06/2008			ELECTRONIC	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/540,878	KAWAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	REBECCA L. ANDERSON	1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2008.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 24-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 2,3,21 and 22 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/27/05, 9/1/05, 9/28/07, 1/4/08.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

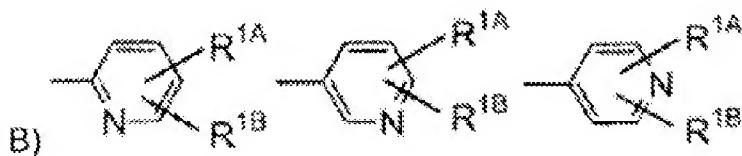
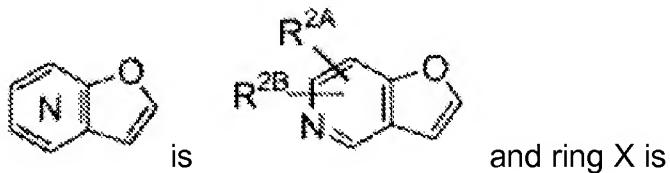
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-27 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 2, 3, 21 and 22 are rejected. Claims 1-23 are objected. Claims 24-27 are withdrawn from consideration as being for non-elected subject matter.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of the group of claims 1-23 wherein ring



in the reply filed on 29 April

2008 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the claims share a corresponding technical feature which makes a contribution over the prior art. This argument is not persuasive as the technical feature shared by the claims does not make a contribution over the prior art as was shown in the lack of unity requirement mailed 1 April 2008 wherein reference CI from the 1449 submitted on 9/28/07 was cited as having the technical feature. Applicant also argues that there is no undue administrative burden placed upon the Examiner to search and consider the claimed subject matter in its entirety. This is not found persuasive because a burdensome search is not a requirement for a lack of unity requirement, however, there is a burdensome search as the inventions are independent and distinct because there is no

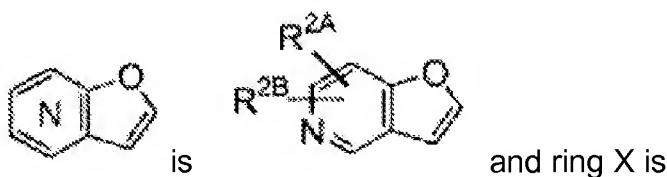
patentable co-action between the groups and a reference anticipating one member will not render another obvious. Each group is directed to art recognized divergent subject matter which require different searching strategies for each group. Moreover, the examiner must perform a commercial database search on the subject matter of each group in addition to a paper search, which is quite burdensome to the examiner. While applicant additionally elects the species of Example 59, it is noted that no requirement to elect a single species was required in the lack of unity requirement.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

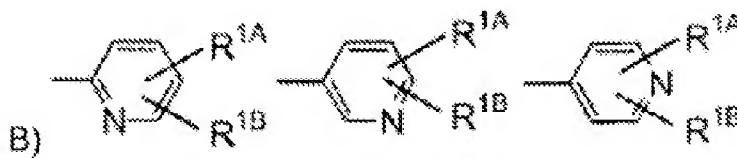
Claim Objections

Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities: Specifically, claim 18 has the symbol "□" in the second to last line. It is suggested that this symbol be deleted from the claim and a comma be added in its place. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 1-23 are objected to as containing non-elected subject matter. Claims 1-23 presented drawn solely to the elected invention of claims 1-23 wherein ring



and ring X is



would overcome this

objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2, 3, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 2, 3, 21 and 22 recite the limitation "the symbols" in the definition of the furan compound. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim as there is no "symbol" for "the symbol" to refer back to. If applicant is intending to discuss the variables R2a and R2B in claims 2 and 3 or R1A, R1B and R1C in claims 21 and 22, it is suggested that, for example, claim 2 be amended by deleting "the symbols" and inserting in its place "R2A and R2B".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rebecca L. Anderson whose telephone number is (571) 272-0696. Mrs. Anderson can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00am until 2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*/Rebecca Anderson/
Primary Examiner, AU 1626*

Rebecca Anderson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1626, Group 1620
Technology Center 1600

2 June 2008